

WEATHER FORECAST
[BUREAU] (Manila) Partly cloudy with light rain showers, 26-30°C.
[BUREAU] (Cebu) Partly cloudy with light rain showers, 26-30°C.
[BUREAU] (Davao) Partly cloudy with light rain showers, 26-30°C.
[BUREAU] (Iloilo) Partly cloudy with light rain showers, 26-30°C.
[BUREAU] (Zamboanga) Partly cloudy with light rain showers, 26-30°C.

Second FRONT PAGE

Reyes passes big CA hurdle

Defensor set to be confirmed today; Gonzalez bypassed

By The Staff

AFTER undergoing a grueling eight-hour hearing, Interior Secretary Angel Reyes yesterday had his appointment endorsed by the Judicial Commission, a committee of the congressional Commission on Appointments.

Being unanimously members of the commission appointed by Reyes last week to replace the late Justice Mariano Delos Angeles, Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.



GONZALEZ bypassed

BIR a 'bright spot' in gov't - SWS

By Cynthia B. Balana

THE BUREAU of Internal Revenue is seen a 'bright spot' in the domestic economy, with revenue up in collections, already paying off 2008 Commitment Calendar obligations to the public.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

RP envoy apologizes over 'Nazi' remarks

By Viki Comenzo

PHILIPPINE Ambassador to Israel Antonio Morales has apologized to the Jewish community for his remarks last week comparing the Israeli occupation of the West Bank to the Holocaust.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

SWEET DEALS FROM SINGAPORE AIRLINES WITH A CHANCE TO WIN 25,000 MILES*



SINGAPORE*	SINGAPORE*	SINGAPORE*	SINGAPORE*	SINGAPORE*	SINGAPORE*
US\$200	US\$230	US\$315	US\$315	US\$370	US\$500

EUROPE**	SINGAPORE**	SINGAPORE**	SINGAPORE**	SINGAPORE**	SINGAPORE**
US\$860	US\$880	US\$1,260	US\$1,260	US\$1,370	US\$1,370

Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.



Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission. Reyes was the only member of the commission to be confirmed by the Judicial Commission.

Newsbriefs

Also: Fact would get rid of 11
[BUREAU] President Duterte said that if he were to become president, he would get rid of 11 cabinet members who were not with him when he was in the military.

Indians without papers
[BUREAU] Indian nationals without proper papers were found in the Philippines. The Philippine Immigration Service is currently processing their cases.

No contract with Telenor
[BUREAU] The Philippine government has decided not to award a contract to Telenor for the provision of mobile phone services in the Philippines.

RP need a drugs regulator
[BUREAU] The Philippine government needs to establish a drug regulatory agency to oversee the distribution and sale of pharmaceuticals in the country.

OPN's get free guide books
[BUREAU] The Open Philippines Network (OPN) has received a grant from the Department of Tourism to provide free guide books to tourists.

DPWH won't sue
[BUREAU] The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has decided not to sue a contractor for a breach of contract.

No book shortage, just distribution problems, says DepEd

By Alvin Papa

There are enough books for public schools around the country, Education Undersecretary for Administration and Finance, Just Miguel Lee said, whenever the problem of textbook was more one of distribution rather than quantity.

"We don't actually have a shortage of textbooks. We have a problem with the distribution," he said.

He said most of the textbooks purchased by the Department of Education (DepEd) were in the storage rather than being used in schools. "Many of our textbooks are being put up in storage (for

programs for the last year and a half was to exchange textbooks between public schools so that the textbooks in the storage will be released and used by schools that need them."

According to education officials, computing the number of students with the number of textbooks the DepEd has bought in

the last five years, which is the standard life span of a textbook title, the actual ratio is already 0.11 to almost every student except Mathematics.

For this school year, the DepEd has purchased 199.5 million textbooks and 3.6 million manuals for students to be distributed to all public schools nationwide.

This will benefit a total of 13.8 million students.

The DepEd had earlier said 1.3 million more textbooks and Learning Guides to which will be distributed from July to October this year. Supposedly pending the arrival (SARs), meanwhile, are up to holding, the DepEd said.

Lee explained that because of

the National Book Development Law put in place in the mid-80s, the DepEd was forced to buy different books for different subjects for different levels every year. This resulted in the proliferation of textbooks and confusion in schools as to which textbook to use. Once a subject chooses one textbook, the rest are merely stored.

No reason to panic over malaria —DOH

By Lela E. Salaverda

DEPT of the headlines, there is no reason for the public to panic over malaria because incidence of the disease has not reached epidemic proportions.

In fact, the incidence of malaria in provinces where the disease-carrying mosquito are present has declined in the last five years, said Dr. Francis Pimentel, a medical specialist at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine.

"There are malaria outbreaks but no epidemics. The incidence has not reached the rates the normal amount, and we have recorded the number of provinces where there are cases," Pimentel said yesterday at the 10th Long Pongpan Forum at the Manila Philippine Plaza hotel.

Pimentel said malaria is a "variable and predictable" disease.

Moreover, incidence of Malaria Malaria and other urban areas (not) are worry too much because the malaria mosquitoes are found

in isolated areas.

Unlike the disease-carrying mosquito, the malaria mosquito does not breed in close breeding water.

"That mosquito breeds in free-flowing mountain streams and river tributaries, which is why malaria is reported only in the mountains," Pimentel said.

The risk the mosquito bites only in the evening and the peak biting hours" are between 7 p.m. and 3 a.m. Only the female mosquito bites.

Not in reports, Puerto.

Malaria was predominantly in the lower poverty areas (malaria) Region I and his co-workers, Atsuko Tatem, died of cerebral malaria which they contracted in Vietnam.

Malaria has the most number of malaria incidence among provinces, followed by Iloilo, Tawi-Tawi, Agusan and Quezon, according to Pimentel.

But she said the popular high-end resorts between the 15 Nito and Club South had no recorded malaria incidence.

In Puerto Princesa, the said malaria incidence were recorded eight kilometers beyond the city proper.

Pimentel said the public could take measures to prevent contracting malaria.

Aside from using long-sleeved shirts, hats, and after going to provinces with malaria, the said people should wear long-sleeved clothing and should immerse repellent on their skin.

"They should also use mosquito coils and nets when sleeping, she said.

Carable

The DDM specialist said malaria could be cured, especially if detected in its early stages.

Malaria symptoms include headache and fever similar to the flu.

But previous health officer Francisco Vitoria said preventing the spread of malaria cases in the province was "not at an alarming level" necessary to report.

Vitoria said the province had stepped up its efforts against the disease after the death of a tourist.

He said 100 confirmed malaria cases had been reported in that city this year, but all the victims, most of whom lived in mountainous communities, have recovered, he said. (PHN Editor C. Sandoz Jr.)

New Health chief asked to go after 'drug lords'

By Deborah V. Esguerra

HIMSELF a work item his new post, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III is faced with an enormous task: "the drug lords" of the country's P20-billion pharmaceutical industry.

Health Alliance for Development (HAFED), a cross-sector group composed of doctors, scientists and other health care professionals, has urged Duque to work with the industry to the so-called pharmaceutical industry cartel, which perpetually keeps the prices of local medicines high.

"We must put an end to the conspiracy pricing being dictated by transnational and multinational corporations that virtually control and run the drug industry in this country," said Dr. Cesar Alonzo Nigam, HAFED's secretary general.

"These pharmaceutical companies are locally drug lords, as different from the foreign firms that bleed our people dry at their low cost," he said.

Nigam said that about 75 percent of the local pharmaceutical industry was controlled by transnational and multinational companies.

Highest in the world

Locally, for instance, controls 90 percent of drug distribution while in some countries, he said, accounts for 75 percent of manufacturing, Nigam said.

He said that, the country's leading drugstore chain, controls about 75 percent of retailing, he said.

With this setup, Nigam said "it is no wonder that prices of medicine in the country rank among the highest in the world."

The drug trade, for instance, is sold locally in the anti-hypertensive "Pencil" by Astra-Genetics for P60, according to HAFED.

But the same company reportedly sells the same medicine for only P36 in Thailand and P20 in India.

Nigam said pharmaceutical companies had been getting away with the high prices because the government had always resorted to "stop-gap measures instead of long-term solutions."

The Generic Law and the National Drug Policy which were meant to provide cheaper drugs in the market are hardly implemented by "bureaucratic inefficiency" owing to its focus on lobbying by the transnational companies, he said.

Taken into account

The government's parallel importation of drugs to meet the growing demand for cheaper medicines is not a good solution as well, Nigam said.

He described as "bureaucratic inefficiency" the government's allocation of only P500 million for the parallel import.

"Parallel importation," he said, "only results in the reimplementation of the Anti-generic government action in the drug industry environment. This is the kind of policy that has brought havoc on the Philippine health care system, which has increased because of the importation in globalization and neo-liberalism."

4 Iraq blasts kill 2 GIs, 16 others

IRAKI—Four bombings, including three suicide attacks, wounded 20 civilians, killed at least 18 people and wounded 15 in northern Iraq early Tuesday, while the US military said reinforcements were killed in separate roadside explosions, sharply cutting a coalition-led US coalition that led over the weekend to recent days.

US military spokesman said 12 soldiers in northern Iraq, including 20 civilians, were killed in the bombings, which followed two days during which 11 people died, the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 200 people since the US-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003.

US military officials said the bombings were the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 200 people since the US-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003.

US military officials said the bombings were the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 200 people since the US-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003.

US military officials said the bombings were the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 200 people since the US-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003.

US military officials said the bombings were the latest in a series of attacks that have killed more than 200 people since the US-led coalition invaded Iraq in 2003.

Taxman body OKs changes in charter

WASHINGTON—A committee charged with reviewing changes in the Internal Revenue Code has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

The committee, which is part of the House of Representatives, has approved a charter for the body that will study the changes.

INK REFILLING BUSINESS LEARNS INK REFILLING

REFILL YOUR OWN INK CARTRIDGES AND SAVE UP TO 90% OFF THE PRICE OF NEW CARTRIDGES

INK REFILLING BUSINESS LEARNS INK REFILLING

REFILL YOUR OWN INK CARTRIDGES AND SAVE UP TO 90% OFF THE PRICE OF NEW CARTRIDGES

INK REFILLING BUSINESS LEARNS INK REFILLING

REFILL YOUR OWN INK CARTRIDGES AND SAVE UP TO 90% OFF THE PRICE OF NEW CARTRIDGES

MAKE A COMPETITIVE EDGE!

VERNON TAPALLA'S

COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

IWATA INDUSTRIAL FAN

P3,750

- 26" DIAMETER
- HEAVY DUTY MOTOR
- 3 METAL BLADES
- STEADY & BIGGER CROSS BASE

IWATA INDUSTRIAL FAN

26" DIAMETER

HEAVY DUTY MOTOR

3 METAL BLADES

STEADY & BIGGER CROSS BASE

IF ANYTHING CAN GO WRONG IT WILL GO WRONG!

LIQUID PAPER

LIQUID PAPER

LIQUID PAPER

LIQUID PAPER

We Buy Diamonds! Cash Paid Instantly

Guaranteed to give you the HIGHEST approval for your diamonds!

Only at **JOAILLER** Jewellery

JOAILLER Jewellery

JOAILLER Jewellery

JOAILLER Jewellery

STOP GUESSING!

STOP GUESSING!

STOP GUESSING!

STOP GUESSING!

COPIERS

COPIERS

COPIERS

COPIERS

Split Type Aircon

Split Type Aircon

Split Type Aircon

Split Type Aircon

1hp P16,500

1hp P16,500

1hp P16,500

1hp P16,500

IWATA TIME RECORDER

IWATA TIME RECORDER

IWATA TIME RECORDER

IWATA TIME RECORDER

MAKATI EXECUTIVE TOWERS I & II

MAKATI EXECUTIVE TOWERS I & II

MAKATI EXECUTIVE TOWERS I & II

MAKATI EXECUTIVE TOWERS I & II

diplomat

diplomat

diplomat

diplomat

Sentinel

Sentinel

Sentinel

Sentinel

FDLI GENERICS

FDLI GENERICS

FDLI GENERICS

FDLI GENERICS

At GCIC We INNOVATE

At GCIC We INNOVATE

At GCIC We INNOVATE

At GCIC We INNOVATE

BUSINESS

For a year, the Philippine Inquirer has been publishing the 2000 Global 500 list.

Executive Director: Josephine M. de Guzman

Editor: Neil D. Morales

Assistant Editor: Corrie S. Morales



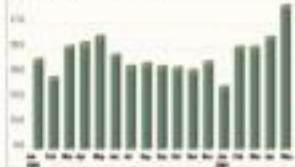
WHAT'S INSIDE

Vehicle sales
up 10.6%

RP, Japan to sign
free trade deal
this year

GLOBAL INTERNATIONAL RESERVES

(January 1994 to May 2000, in billions US\$)



Forex reserves hit 3-year high of \$17.3B

By Dario C. Quinsic

THE PHILIPPINES' gross international reserves reached the \$17.3 billion mark in mid-May, putting the emergency foreign exchange build-up in three years buoyed by inflows from the government's foreign exchange borrowing.

Banking Institute of Philippine Offshore in Charge Antonio Domingo A. Quinsic announced that the first month of the year ended at \$17.3 billion, 3.7 percent higher than the previous month's \$16.7 billion.

It was also better than the \$16.74 billion in reserves as of mid-May last year.

"The current GDS level, the highest since April 1998, may allow us to cover about 3.9 months' needs of imports of goods and payments of services and interest," Domingo said.

"This level was also equivalent to 3.7 times the country's short-term debt based on original maturity and 1.8 times based on non-maturity," he said.

That time data based on

included money by permits to outstanding short-term covered debt on original maturity plus principal payments on medium- and long-term loans of the public, and private sector falling due within the next 12 months.

The lift, according to the BSP's gross foreign currency holdings, gold reserves, special drawing rights from multilateral institutions and foreign investments, is not an indicator of the ability to service the foreign debt in foreign currencies of the economy.

"Inflows from deposit by the national government of its proceeds from the reporting of goods and services largely boosted the mid-May 2000 GDS," Domingo said.

"These inflows, however, were partly offset by the foreign exchange requirements for payments of interest on foreign government and BSP obligations," he said.

Last month, the Philippines raised \$750 million through the sale of additional 200 and 300-megawatt

Inflation remained at a high 8.5% in May

By Michelle Y. Reyes

CONSUMER prices continued to rise by a steep 8.5 percent in May from a year earlier, or much higher than the government's target, as the high cost of oil in the world market led to adjustments in the cost of essential goods and services.

Inflation also stood at an average of 8.5 percent for the January to April period. This was very above the 5- to 6-percent of fixed target by the government.

"Obviously, it is part of a facilitated inflation" was stated by high oil prices. In something we have no control over, especially in short-run, we are really at the mercy of the world market.

According to the National Statistics Office, the inflation in May compared with that in April, was somewhat largely in the accelerated increase in the cost of food, light and power, and miscellaneous items at 10.1 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively.

Inflation for other commodity groups actually slowed down, however, with clothes, from 7 to 6.5 percent; clothing, from 9.8 to 9.7 percent; services, from 14.3 to 14.2 percent; and housing and repairs were kept at its April figure of 4.9 percent.

The whole inflation was still at 8.5 percent in the first five months of the year, the government's economic team will have to adjust the full-year inflation target.

Some officials have been cautious in adjusting macroeconomic and fiscal policy, believing it would be the government's responsibility.



STOCK MARKET
Shares end down 1.3% on political woes

The benchmark S&P 500 index ended down 1.3 percent at 1,084.92, after rising 1.9 percent over the past week's session. The Dow Jones Industrial Average ended down 1.3 percent at 10,849.20, after rising 1.9 percent over the past week's session. The Nikkei 225 index ended down 1.3 percent at 10,849.20, after rising 1.9 percent over the past week's session.



Another branch opens.
We are reaching new heights.
A new product launched.
We are completing more people's lives.

To address your needs,
change is essential.
That is why East West Bank is now a full-fledged commercial bank.
This is our big step towards giving you more opportunities.
With 67 branches,
73 ATMs,
P22.6 billion in assets,
P18.3 billion in deposits,
Plus an award-winning website.

Thanks to you, East West Bank keeps on growing.

Discover Our Strengths.
Enter East West Bank.

ONE BIG STEP AT A TIME.

Ask about our Savings and Checking accounts, Consumer Loans and Cash Management.
Call Customer Hotline: 800-177 or visit www.eastwestbank.com

BARCNET
Member of the Philippine Barcnet Association

PDIC
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance and Compensation Fund

EASTWESTBANK
Building Better Futures. Inspiring Lives.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance and Compensation Fund
Member of the Philippine Barcnet Association



LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at Readers@inquirer.com.phFor complete headlines register. See inquirer.com/registering to 2377 (Monday to 365) (Dialer)

A totally different direction, new equipment and a powerhouse cast make up Christopher Nolan's new Batman movie.



THE CAST of "Batman Begins" is below

Recharging the Bat

By Neil S. De Vera

TOYOTA—for years, the question was not *how*, established by hardcore believers and paying fans alike: was *The Batman*. Entailed as a movie franchise?

Director Tim Burton and actor Michael Keaton was over the message with a decidedly unique perspective of Gotham City in 1989's "Batman" and 1992's "Batman Returns" before Joel Schumacher shut down the bat in 1997's "Batman Forever" and 2001's "Batman and Robin."

For the *Batman* movies are seriously popular property, particularly in comic books and on television, with lead actors like appearing in "Detective Comics" in 1939.

Unusual choice

The task of designing the Bat would fall on a most unusual choice. When Warner Bros. announced the selection of Christopher Nolan, acclaimed for his narrative acrobatics in "Memento," viewers ranged from ecstatic to downright confused. The simple truth was, fans were hopeful but uncertain of what the uncompromising Nolan would bring after having been misled by Bat Credit Cards and cinema of Adam West doing the batman.

Nolan, who also directed "Insomnia," was never successful in the ultra-dark genre thought, "Batman had always been the most interesting character to do because he's the most and is driven by complicated and negative things like anger, but he is able to channel it into something good, that that makes him one of the best and most relevant heroes in cinema," he told the assembled press at the Grand Hotel in Tokyo.

For this reason, he wanted to focus on the *Batman*'s origin. The back-to-the-Batman movie would be called "Batman Begins," and Nolan would apply his trademark style as well as a strong pen for character development to Bruce Wayne.

After recruiting his chosen castmates to this capital crusade (joining them with Batman Thomas and Charlie Sheen who served as producers), Nolan went about assembling a cast that not only mirrored the vibrant bat world but also Christian Bale, David Robins, Michael Caine, Liam Neeson, Morgan Freeman, Gary Oldman, Ken Watanabe and Gillian Anderson.

After beginning principal photography in March 2001, "Batman Begins" would bring the crew to Ireland, London, Cardiff and Chicago to capture Bruce Wayne's first step to dark swaddering as well as the twisted vision of Gotham City as seen through the designs of production designer Nathan Crowley. While New York has traditionally been the model for the atmosphere of Gotham, Crowley found his urban landscape in Chicago instead.

While many things about *The Batman* were changed and updated, many things



CHRISTOPHER NOLAN



DAVID ROBINS



GILLIAN ANDERSON



ANG BAGONG PANLABAN SA UBO.

SOLID SA BILIS.

Robitussin

NEW

Guafenesin

Robitussin

LoaGel

Wyerse

THE DIRECTOR *David Welton*

Behind the music

SING! all four of them pointed the songs on their album, we asked. "Most of our songs are from our experiences," Champ said. "Make you want to read between the lines of their lyrics..."

1. "Take No"

Ball (Shelton 1999): It has a multi-meant value, because it's the first song on *music...* It's about a friendship in a wrong number way. The song is up there that person paying back songs, the relationship will be really dead, and you'll really feel too.

2. "Bliss Sky"

Imane (Shelton 2002): It's a positive song. "Champ: The lyrics are uplifting, compared to the rest of the songs. "Big something to surprise to someone down for us, there's no other place to go but up."

3. "Here Tonight"

DB: It's all about love. And it's how to play this song live. Don't love and live.

4. "Bent Down"

Ball: First on this it's the most personal. It's intentionally mixed up the lyrics, because I don't want people to understand it.

5. "Life Support"

Shelton (Gulfstream 2004): This song talks about self-love in the first, second, and third-person point of view and they're all talking about someone else, then jump to being your own self. So it's about self-love.

THE FASHION FREAKS

Bag to school

2bU! there are always a million and one backpacks available in the market today but choosing the right bag for school shouldn't just depend on your favorite color and budget. To those health-conscious ones, you have to pick a bag that would fit in a basket in your body.

Enter the Air Contourless Posturepedic Backpack.

This backpack, which is set to receive the Philippine Marketing Excellence Award in July, is the first in the world with a softframe that evenly distributes weight along the lower back. This means you won't suffer long-term injury resulting from unbalanced loads, a common occurrence with ordinary backpacks.

The softframe is made of lightweight material, so the bag doesn't add to the weight of your load. The Air Contourless

has an ultra-ventilation technology, allowing air to flow freely along the back, minimizing heat and perspiration levels.

This bag can also enhance your posture, adding the body of action and joint caused by sweeping from weight, non-supporting.

If you want your very own Air Contourless Posturepedic Backpack, visit us at your nearest shop, or send an email with us why you love it to win the bag. It's as simple as you want. E-mail your entries to contest@2buph.com.ph.

2bU! Products: Air Contourless Posturepedic Backpacks are available at all Shoppers' branches. Call 833-8772, 893-1115 or 890-1508.

Pinch out for more back-to-school tips and fashion/funk must-haves!



Air Contourless Posturepedic Backpack

Win this backpack from 2bU! and float through your school's hallways pain-free

Hail to Hail!

By [unreadable]

with play?" "Dante said, 'Shelton played it 'till through their pig, nighttime and ending playing.' Obviously no inside joke, as the whole band knew too much about Shelton's costume. "There was shall we say personal progress in that pig," he said.

Bright future

It's hard to disagree that this got into the spotlight. And it's only right that they make the whole idea a hit.

It's not for the faint of heart. And of course, their story is the dramatic stage at the *Fête de la Musique* on June 18, which they're really giddy about.

"As soon as you hear, something is going to happen," Shelton said. "I was introduced to a big band... and singing you, because in one night, after my musician from different groups play. Making progress. It's a night for everyone."

"There's always something about progress in me,"

Shelton said.

Shelton went on. "The event comes to me, from a lot of things. 'Oh no, only playing live band dancers dance.'"

The band broke into laughter again, but they were obviously tired.

Champ was excited about his place to sleep all day, and that was anticipating the long, long time home. Besides, in three days, they would rock the stage at *Merck's* and jump to an emotional celebration of pig.

With such professional work ethic and hunger to succeed, the band has definitely quashed their third big spread.

(Catch Hail on the Alternative Stage at *Fête de la Musique* on June 18.)

WIN A DATE WITH HALE!

2bU! is a chance to get smiling, make it your own like Hale has and would like to get up close and personal (not that up close and personal—we're a PG-13 Lifestyle website!) with the band, you might want to join our contest to win a date with the band on the night of *Fête de la Musique*. The winners go to 1000 Gallery of The Pavilion, agreed to meet you and a friend, as well as the band, to a dinner at their lab only on June 18. If you're done screaming and jumping up and down while reading this, send in a 12-line original poem about the group to winadatewith Hale@2buph.com or before 12 noon on June 13.